

HOUSE BILL NO. 520

INTRODUCED BY P. CLARK

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TRUSTEES OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE A STUDENT HUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION OR HUNTING ACTIVITY RELEASE TIME PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR UP TO 3 DAYS OF RELEASE TIME FOR EACH STUDENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATING IN A HUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM OR PARTICIPATING IN A HUNTING ACTIVITY WITH THE PERMISSION OF A PARENT OR GUARDIAN AND WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT LICENSED TO HUNT; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Student hunter safety education or hunting activity release time program. (1) The trustees of a district may provide for a hunter safety education or hunting activity release time program under which a pupil must, upon written request of the pupil's parent or guardian, be released from regular school attendance for a period not to exceed 3 days each year for the purpose of receiving hunter safety education or participating in a hunting activity with the permission of a parent or guardian and when accompanied by an adult who is licensed to hunt.

(2) A school district may require evidence of participation in a hunter safety education program or a licensed hunting activity or require a report from a pupil participating in the program on the educational aspects of the hunter safety education program or hunting activity.

(3) Any period for which a pupil is released under a hunter safety education program or for a hunting activity is part of the school day and week for purposes of 20-1-301, 20-1-302, 20-5-103, 20-9-311, and all other provisions of Title 20, and the release time may not adversely affect the pupil's attendance record.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 1, part 3, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 1, part 3, apply to [section 1].

1 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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